

## CLAIMS

1. Use of a peptide which binds to a lipopolysaccharide (LPS) or lipoteichoic acid (LTA), for manufacturing a pharmaceutical composition for treating sepsis or septic shock, wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid sequence of apolipoprotein CI (apoCI) or a part thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of apoCI.  
5
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid sequence of human apoCI or a part thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of human apoCI.  
10
3. Use according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is human apoCI or a fragment thereof that comprises at least the amino acids MREWFSQKVKEKLK.  
15
4. Use according to claim 3, wherein the peptide is human apoCI having the amino acid sequence TPDVSSALDKLKEFGNTLEDKARELIS RIKQSELSAKMREWFSQKVKEKLKIDS.  
20
5. Use of a peptide which binds to lipopolysaccharide (LPS) according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein a pharmaceutical composition is manufactured for preventing or treating a sepsis or septic shock caused by Gram-negative bacteria in mammals, in particular humans or a domestic animal, such as horse, cow, dog and cat.  
25
6. Use of a peptide which binds to lipoteichoic acid (LTA) according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein a pharmaceutical composition is manufactured for preventing or treating a sepsis or septic shock caused by Gram-positive bacteria in mammals, in particular humans or a domestic animal, such as horse, cow, dog and cat.  
30
7. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating sepsis or septic shock, which composition

comprises a peptide as defined in one or more of the claims 1-4 as well as a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. A method for preventively treating a mammal, in particular human individual, which, for instance as a result of a surgical intervention or a weakened immune system, is at increased risk of developing sepsis, wherein to the mammal an active amount is administered of a peptide as defined in one or more of claims 1-4.

9. A method for treating a mammal, in particular human individual, which suffers from sepsis or septic shock, wherein to the mammal an active amount is administered of a peptide as defined in one or more of claims 1-4.

10. A method for determining the severity of a septic condition and making a prognosis for the further course of the sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, in particular human individual, which suffers from sepsis or septic shock, wherein the apoCI content is determined in a blood sample of the mammal.

11. A method for monitoring a treatment of sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, in particular human individual, which is being treated for sepsis or septic shock, wherein the apoCI content is determined in a blood sample of the mammal.